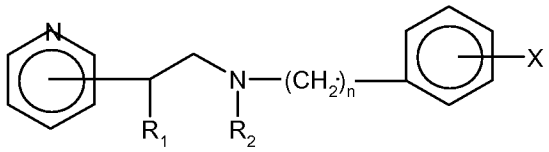
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A compound of formula I



I

wherein

n is an integer from 2 to 4

R_1 is a ~~hydrogen atom,~~ hydroxyl group or lower C_{1-6}alkoxy group

R_2 is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched lower C_{1-6}alkyl group

X is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl group, trifluoromethyl group, 3,4-di-Cl,2,4-di-Cl or lower C_{1-6} alkoxy group

or an enantiomer, diastereoisomer or racemate thereof, or a physiologically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented). The compounds according to claim 1 in which n is an integer 2, R_1 is a hydroxyl group, R_2 a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl or isobutyl group and X is a hydrogen atom, 3,4-di-Cl, or 2,4-di-Cl.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 in which R_1 is a hydroxyl group in the RS configuration.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-phenylethyl)-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(4-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). The compounds of formula I according to claim 1 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis in the treatment of hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia in humans.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented). The compositions comprising the compound of formula I according to claim 1 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

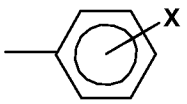
Claim 11 (Previously Presented). The process for preparation of the compound of formula I according to claim 1 which process comprises

a) alkylating secondary amines of formula VI

$NHR_2CH_2CH_2Z$ **VI**

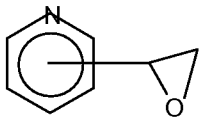
wherein

R_2 is as defined above in formula I and Z is a group



in which X is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

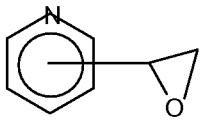
to form the compound of formula I, or

b) alkylating primary amines of formula VIII

R_2NH_2 **VIII**

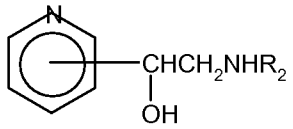
wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



VII

to intermediate compounds of formula IX



IX

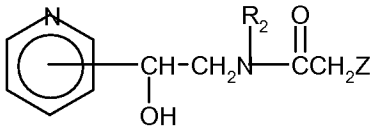
wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

and condensing with the derivatives of phenylacetic acid of formula X

$$HOOCCH_2Z \quad \textbf{X}$$

wherein Z is as defined above,

to an intermediate compounds of formula XI



XI

and reducing the compound of formula XI to the compound of formula I and optionally converting the compound of formula I into a salt.